

Message Text

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70

ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 ARA-10 EA-10 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SCCT-01 SY-04 /123 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN

APPROVED BY NEA/P:GFSHERMAN

S/PRS - MR. KING (INFO)

H - MISS FOLGER (INFO)

IO/P - MR. BLACHLY

EUR/P - MR. JERABEK

NEA/ARN - MR. KORN

AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL

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R 112126Z NOV 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY SANAA
USINT BAGHDAD

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR
SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING ARE EXCERPTS
FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING NOVEMBER 11,
1974:

QUOTE: Q. THAT IS FOR SURE, THOUGH, ISN'T IT -- THAT HE
(SECRETARY KISSINGER) IS NOT GOING TO NEW YORK FOR THE
PALESTINIAN DEBATE.

A. NO.

Q. IS ANYBODY FROM THE DEPARTMENT GOING TO NEW YORK FOR
THE PALESTINIAN DEBATE?

A. LET ME CHECK BILL BUFFUM'S OFFICE TO SEE. I AM UNAWARE
OF ANYBODY GOING UP ESPECIALLY FROM HERE. I AM UNAWARE OF

THAT. I DO NOT KNOW OF ANY PLAN.

Q. ROY ATHERTON WON'T BE THERE?

A. TO MY KNOWLEDGE, NO.

Q. WHAT ABOUT BUFFUM? WILL HE BE THERE?

A. HE MIGHT BE GOING, BUT WHEN I SAW HIM THIS MORNING, HE
DIDN'T MENTION IT. I DIDN'T ASK HIM SPECIFICALLY. I DON'T
THINK THERE IS ANY PLAN FOR ANY ADDITIONAL PEOPLE TO GO UP.

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Q. COULD YOU BRING US UP TO DATE ON THE ARRANGEMENTS THAT
HAVE BEEN MADE FOR THE PALESTINIAN DELEGATION -- HOW MANY
VISAS HAVE BEEN ISSUED, WHERE THEY ARE GOING TO BE KEPT,
HAS ARAFAT NOW APPLIED FOR A VISA?

A. MR. ARAFAT IS COMING TO THE UN. HE WAS ISSUED A VISA
YESTERDAY IN CAIRO.

Q. C-2?

A. YES -- C-2.

Q. WHAT IS A C-2?

A. THAT IS A TYPE OF VISA THAT IS GIVEN TO VISITORS THAT ARE COMING TO THE UNITED NATIONS -- I MEAN FOR UNITED NATIONS BUSINESS. WITH REGARD TO WHERE THE DELEGATION IS GOING TO STAY, ETC., THIS DOES HAVE, AS YOU CAN BE AWARE, IMPORTANT SECURITY ASPECTS, AND I AM JUST NOT AT LIBERTY TO DISCUSS WHERE THEY ARE GOING TO STAY OR ANYTHING LIKE THAT.

Q. THERE WERE REPORTS IN THE PAPERS THIS MORNING THAT THE DISPUTE OVER WHERE THEY WOULD BE PUT HAS NOW BEEN RESOLVED, WITHOUT SAYING WHERE, AND THE LAST THING WE HAD HEARD ABOUT IS THE POSSIBILITY OF PUTTING THEM ON GOVERNOR'S ISLAND. CAN YOU RULE THAT OUT?

A. LET ME JUST SAY THIS. AS FAR AS I AM AWARE, AND I CHECKED INTO THIS THIS MORNING, THERE IS NO DISPUTE ABOUT THIS QUESTION. BUT INsofar AS REPORTING TO YOU ON WHERE THE DELEGATION IS GOING TO STAY, FOR THE REASONS I HAVE JUST STATED, I JUST CANNOT GO INTO IT.

Q. THERE WAS ONE REPORT THIS MORNING THAT I SAW THAT THE UN IS GOING TO PUT THEM UP ON RAT ISLAND, IN THE EAST RIVER -- YOU KNOW, THE LITTLE THING IN FRONT OF THE HEAD-QUARTERS.

Q. RAT ISLAND?

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Q. THAT IS WHAT IT IS CALLED.

A. LET ME JUST STICK WITH WHAT I SAID, AS TO WHERE THEY ARE GOING TO STAY.

I DO NOT BELIEVE THERE IS ANY ACCURACY TO THAT SPECIFIC REPORT. BUT I DON'T WANT TO GET INTO WHERE THEY ARE GOING TO STAY, PLEASE.

Q. DO YOU KNOW WHICH KIND OF PASSPORT ARAFAT IS CARRYING?

A. I DO NOT.

Q. HOW MANY IN HIS PARTY? HOW MANY VISAS HAVE BEEN ISSUED?

A. THE ONLY THING ON THAT THAT I CAN GIVE YOU IS THAT THERE ARE ELEVEN PEOPLE, INCLUDING MR. ARAFAT, IN THE OFFICIAL DELEGATION. AND THEN OUR EMBASSY IN BEIRUT ISSUED NINE VISAS TO THE PLO INFORMATION DELEGATION. THOSE THAT ARE REPRESENTATIVES, THAT ARE COMING.

Q. ARE THESE ALL C-2 VISAS?

A. AS FAR AS I KNOW, YES.

Q. THERE WAS A REPORT LAST WEEK THAT SOME OF THE DELEGATION HAD RECEIVED VISAS WITHOUT ANY LIMITATION, PRIOR TO THE LAWSUIT THAT WAS FILED IN NEW YORK.

A. WHAT LIMITATION ARE YOU REFERRING TO?

Q. THE C-2 VISAS, THAT LIMITS PEOPLE TO 25 MILES FROM COLUMBUS CIRCLE. THERE IS SOME SUGGESTION THAT SOME MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATION HAD INITIALLY BEEN GIVEN UNLIMITED VISITORS' VISAS, OR DIPLOMATIC, WHATEVER WOULD BE DONE IN THAT CASE. AND ONLY AFTER THE LAWSUIT FILED BY THE B'NAI B'RITH, I THINK, LAST WEEK WAS THE STATUS CHANGED TO C-2.

A. I DON'T KNOW IF THERE WAS ANY CHANGE IN TYPES OF VISAS
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GIVEN OR NOT ON THIS. I CAN TRY AND LOOK INTO IT AND FIND OUT. BUT AS FAR AS I KNOW, THERE WAS NO QUESTION. IT WAS ALWAYS GOING TO BE JUST C-2 VISAS. YOU WERE BRIEFING HERE LAST WEEK, JOHN, AND PAUL BRIEFED A COUPLE OF TIMES. IF I AM INCORRECT HERE TELL ME SO.

MR. KING: THERE WAS SOME QUESTION AT ONE POINT THAT TWO OF THESE INDIVIDUALS HAD ALREADY HAD DIPLOMATIC VISAS, AND AT LEAST ONE HAD A B-2, A VISITOR'S VISA. AND WE WERE

NEVER ABLE TO REALLY NAIL THAT DOWN. BUT THE POINT OF THE MATTER IS THAT THE DECISION WAS TO GIVE THEM C-2'S.

Q. YOU HAVE TO EXCUSE MY IGNORANCE. DOES C-2 NECESSARILY IMPLY THAT THEY ARE RESTRICTED TO THE NEW YORK AREA?

A. I THOUGHT A C-2 IS FOR PEOPLE COMING TO THE UNITED NATIONS FOR UNITED NATIONS BUSINESS, AND IT IS A RESTRICTION, I THINK TO A 25-MILE RADIUS OF NEW YORK. THAT IS PART OF THE VISA.

Q. HAS ANYBODY FROM THE DEPARTMENT OR THE MISSION BEEN IN

TOUCH WITH THE JDL, TO REQUEST THEM TO COOL IT DURING THIS PERIOD THAT THE PLO WILL BE IN NEW YORK?

A. I DON'T KNOW WHETHER THEY HAVE OR NOT.

Q. WHO HAS PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR THEIR SECURITY -- IS IT THE STATE DEPARTMENT, NEW YORK CITY POLICE, OR SECRET SERVICE, OR THE UN SECURITY?

A. CERTAINLY THE UNITED NATIONS IS VERY MUCH CONCERNED HERE. AND THEN WE COOPERATE WITH THE UNITED NATIONS IN THE SECURITY AREA.

Q. IS THE RESTRICTION IMPOSED BY THE C-2 HARD AND FAST, OR CAN IT BE WAIVED BY A TELEPHONE CALL, A LETTER, OR HOW?

A. I DON'T KNOW. LET ME CHECK IT.

Q. CAN ANY OF THEM COME TO WASHINGTON AND THE STATE DEPARTMENT?
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MENT UNDER THAT VISA, TO TALK TO ANYBODY HERE?

A. AS FAR AS I KNOW, NO. IT IS A 25-MILE RADIUS.

Q. WHILE WE ARE TALKING OF POSSIBLE VISITORS TO WASHINGTON, APPARENTLY -- WELL, WE THOUGHT THAT SOME OF THE ARAB FOREIGN MINISTERS WHO WERE GOING TO BE IN NEW YORK WOULD ALSO COME DOWN HERE AND SEE THE SECRETARY. DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING FURTHER ON THAT?

A. I DO NOT. I REMEMBER THE SAUDI ARABIAN FOREIGN MINISTER UMAR SAQQAF, IS GOING TO BE HERE.

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Q. YOU MEAN IN NEW YORK?

A. IN NEW YORK. NOW, THE SECRETARY INDICATED AT SOME POINT DURING OUR TRIP THAT HE MIGHT BE SEEING THE FOREIGN MINISTER. I HAVE NOT CHECKED SINCE I RETURNED ON WHETHER

IT IS SET UP. BUT CERTAINLY IF THEY ARE GOING TO MEET, IT WOULD HAVE TO BE HERE.

AS FAR AS ANY OTHER FOREIGN MINISTER IS CONCERNED, I KNOW OF NO PLANS. BUT I WILL CHECK ON SAQQAF, BECAUSE THE SECRETARY DID MENTION THAT AS A POSSIBILITY.

Q. I WONDER IF I COULD RETURN JUST ONCE AGAIN TO THIS VISA QUESTION. DO I UNDERSTAND THAT THE THREE -- THESE

TWO DIPLOMATIC VISAS AND THE ONE VISITOR'S VISA -- WERE
WITHDRAWN AFTER IT WAS DECIDED THAT EVERYONE WOULD HAVE
C-2 VISAS?

MR. KING: WELL, AS I INDICATED BEFORE, THERE WAS SOME CON-
FUSION ABOUT WHO HAD WHAT. THE DECISION IS THEY GET C-2
VISAS, THE DELEGATION.

Q. THAT INCLUDES ALL TWENTY, JOHN?

MR. KING. I SUPPOSE SO, YES.

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Q. WHAT HAPPENS TO THE TWO DIPLOMATIC VISAS? DOES THAT
MEAN THAT THEY ARE NOT VALID FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS
TRIP, OR WHAT?

MR. KING: WELL, AGAIN, NOT ACCEPTING THE HARD AND FAST
FACT THAT THEY DID HAVE THEM -- WE ARE TALKING ABOUT
REPORTS THAT THEY HAD -- THE DELEGATION GETS C-2 VISAS.

Q. BUT DID THEY PURPORTEDLY HAVE THEM BECAUSE THEY WERE
FROM OTHER GOVERNMENTS? I WASN'T HERE LAST WEEK.

MR. KING: PURPORTEDLY, YES. END QUOTE. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETING DELEGATIONS, LIBERATION FRONTS, PRESS CONFERENCES, VISAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 NOV 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE248279
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GFSHERMAN
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740325-0373
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741153/aaaabstx.tel
Line Count: 307
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 6
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: schwenja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUN 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 NOV 2002 by martinml>; APPROVED <22-Nov-2002 by golinofr>; WITHDRAWN <13 Jun 2005 by BoyleJA, PRIVACY>; RELEASED <15 JUN 2005 by bryantcd>; APPROVED <15 JUN 2005 by schwenja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL
TAGS: PFOR, US, PLO, UN, (ARAFAT, YASSER)
To: AMMAN MULTIPLE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005